

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating a portion of Kentucky Route 39 in Pulaski
2 County in honor and memory of former United States Army Captain, Kentucky State
3 Representative, and Pulaski County Court Clerk, Marshall Davenport.

4 WHEREAS, after high school, Marshall Davenport worked while he attended
5 Pikeville Junior College. After graduation, he enrolled at the University of Louisville
6 where he earned a Juris Doctor degree; and

7 WHEREAS, on August 13, 1941, four months prior to Pearl Harbor, Marshall
8 Davenport was drafted into the United States Army; and

9 WHEREAS, on November 20, 1941, Marshall Davenport married Elizabeth Hall;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, in 1942, Marshall Davenport completed officer candidate school at Ft.
12 Knox and afterwards was sent overseas with the 1st Armored Division; and

13 WHEREAS, Marshall Davenport was severely injured when Germans destroyed the
14 tank he was in while fighting in Northern Africa. He was captured and became a Prisoner
15 of War; and

16 WHEREAS, as a result of the battle, Marshall Davenport lost a leg, was badly
17 burned, and nearly lost his eyesight; and

18 WHEREAS, after serving as a POW, Marshall Davenport returned to the United
19 States in a prisoner exchange program. He spent some time in recovery and was
20 eventually discharged from the U.S. Army as a Captain; and

21 WHEREAS, upon his return home, Marshall Davenport began his career as a field
22 representative for General Motors in Somerset. After that he went to work in the legal
23 department of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Louisville. He stayed there for
24 18 months, when doctors told him that he was in jeopardy of going blind if he didn't find
25 another occupation that required less reading; and

26 WHEREAS, Marshall Davenport and his wife Elizabeth subsequently purchased a
27 farm in Dabney. Marshall Davenport proved to be an exceptional farmer, eventually

1 winning the Kentucky Cattleman of the Year Award; and

2 WHEREAS, in 1962, Marshall Davenport was called to the political world on a
3 promise of bringing honesty and integrity to the Pulaski County Clerk's office. He won
4 four consecutive terms as county court clerk and even served some time as President of
5 the Kentucky County Court Clerk's Association; and

6 WHEREAS, at the end of his first year as Pulaski County Court Clerk, Marshall
7 Davenport ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$26,711. At the time there had never
8 been any surplus funds turned over for the operation of Pulaski County government. The
9 surpluses continued to grow each year and by the end of his 16-year tenure, Marshall
10 Davenport had created a surplus of nearly \$1 million dollars; and

11 WHEREAS, a few years after his tenure as County Clerk, Marshall Davenport ran
12 for state representative. He served in the Kentucky House of Representatives from 1978-
13 1980; and

14 WHEREAS, on July 5, 1986, at the age of 70, Marshall Davenport traversed these
15 earthly bounds; and

16 WHEREAS, this highway designation will serve as a reminder of the life, sacrifice,
17 and dedication to public service of Marshall Davenport;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

20 ➔Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet shall designate Kentucky Route 39 in
21 Pulaski County, as the "Marshall Davenport Memorial Highway," and shall, within 30
22 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect the appropriate signage.